

TPO-5168  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Ken MURAYAMA, et al.  
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned  
Filed: January 23, 2006  
For: PROBE REPLACEMENT METHOD FOR SCANNING PROBE  
MICROSCOPE  
Group: Not Yet Assigned  
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendments  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 23, 2005

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

**Amendments to the Claims**

**Amendments to the Abstract**

**Remarks** are included following the amendments.